

**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

LARRY ZHAO  
JEREMY MARTIN  
HARTMUT RUELKE

Serial No.: 10/717,122

Filed: November 19, 2003

For: DIELECTRIC BARRIER LAYER FOR A  
COPPER METALLIZATION LAYER  
HAVING A VARYING SILICON  
CONCENTRATION ALONG ITS  
THICKNESS

Confirmation No.: 7303

Examiner: Alexander G. Ghysa

Group Art Unit: 2812

Att'y Docket: 2000.106900/DE0130

Customer No.: 23720

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) of the above-identified application.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on December 13, 2007.  
(Any unentered amendments referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other:

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement  
(IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declarations

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2.

Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) **required**)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

3.

Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0786/DE0130:

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON  
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 23720

Date: January 14, 2008

/J. Mike Amerson/

J. Mike Amerson  
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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS